

Message Text

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14-10

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 FEA-01 EB-07 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 STR-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 /104 W

----- 007342

R 120900Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3414

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RW, SF

SUBJECT: RWANDAN PRESIDENT FAVORS SOUTH AFRICA CONTACTS

REFS: (A) KIGALI 145 (B) KIGALI 0619 (NOV. 4, 1974)

1. DURING TRANSIT INTERVIEW BUJUMBURA AIRPORT (WHILE ENROUTE FRANCOPHONE CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING BANGUI), RWANDAN PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICAN CONTACTS AS FOLLOW (REMARKS BCST RADIO RWANDA MAR. 9):

Q. ALSO TO BE RAISED AT BANGUI WILL BE THE PROBLEM OF THE DIALOGUE BY VARIOUS COUNTRIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

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CERTAINLY, THERE WILL BE COUNTRIES AT BANGUI WHICH HAVE

UNDERTAKEN THE DIALOGUE AND THOSE WHICH DO NOT
WISH TO DO SO. WHAT IS THE POSITION OF RWANDA ON THIS
MATTER?

A. WE HAVE LEARNED BY RADIO AND PRESS THAT CERTAIN
AFRICAN COUNTRIES MIGHT HAVE CONTACTED SOUTH AFRICA BUT
WE DO NOT HAVE EVIDENCE. THUS, I WON'T DISCUSS OTHER
COUNTRIES. AS FAR AS THE POLICY OF RWANDA IS CONCERNED,
IF SOUTH AFRICA MANIFESTS ITS GOOD WILL TO CHANGE ITS
POLICY, IT SHOULD BE WELL UNDERSTOOD THAT RWANDA WOULD
BE READY TO WELCOME THE GESTURE AND TO CONTACT SOUTH
AFRICA. AS YOU ALSO KNOW, PORTUGAL ONLY TWO YEARS AGO HAD
A POLICY SIMILAR TO THAT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND IT FINALLY
CHANGED -- IT FINALLY UNDERSTOOD. IF SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD
CHANGE ITS POLICY, THEN RWANDA WOULD OPEN ITS DOOR TO
SUCH CONTACTS.

2.COMMENT: THIS VIEW CONSISTENT WITH PRESIDENT
HABYARIMANA'S FORMER MODERATE COMMENTS TO AMB (REFTEL B).
FRITTS

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